THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) As per information made available by Bureau of Indian Standards, while carrying out their surveillance activity, various discrepancies were observed in the operation of licences in three bottled drinking water units. Accordingly, they were put under stop marking. Under stop marking conditions, these firms are not authorized to put BIS Mark on their product till permitted by BIS after verification of corrective actions taken by them. Licences are not cancelled. None of these units were producing popular brands.

(b) To improve the monitoring of the operation of bottled water licences, it has been decided to increase the number of inspections of bottled water units by Bureau of Indian Standards.

The number of samples to be drawn from the factory as well as the market have also been increased.

Import of drugs

2288. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the registration system for imported drugs is in operation;

(b) the details of the applications received; and

(c) the status of the pending applications?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The details of applications received and status of applications as on 15th July, 203 are given below:-

No. of Applications received for registration of manufacturing sites	-	706
No. of Registration certificates issued to manufacturing sites	-	493
No. of applications pending due to incomplete documentation	-	26
No. of applications pending for registration	-	187

Details of applications received, issued and pending as on 15.7.2003 is also available on the website www.cdsco.nic.In. The website is regularly

updated to give upto date information.

Registration is a continuous process and Notification No. GSR 604(E) dated 24.08.2001 specifies a processing time of 9 months to 1 year for issuance of Registration Certificates subject to the conditions that the documents are complete in all respects. The certificates are being issued well within the time prescribed.

Exemption to Penicillin-G from registration

2289. SHRI UDAY PRATAP SINGH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representation from the manufacturers of Bulk drugs regarding exemption of Pencillin-G and its salts from registration requirements as it is used as an intermediate; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the DCGI in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The matter is under examination.

Spread of contagious diseases

2290. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of contagious diseases are afflicting the country;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to eradicate/prevent spread of the diseases, with details of the various programmes/schemes drawn up for the purpose and allocations made for each programme/scheme, during the last three years; and

(c) the amount released to each State for implementation of the Central programmes/schemes during the above period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) It is a fact that a number